

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1226

Introduced by Assembly Member Hall

February 22, 2013

An act to add Section 19502 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to horse racing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1226, as introduced, Hall. Horse racing: jockey riding fees.

Existing law establishes the California Horse Racing Board, which generally regulates horse racing in the state, including setting default riding fees for jockeys that apply in the absence of a contract or special agreement regarding riding fees to the contrary. Existing law establishes the default riding fees for jockeys as a certain percentage of the win purse, which is defined as the amount paid the winning horse less the fees paid by the owner to enter the horse in the race. Existing law also requires a jockey who finishes 2nd or 3rd in a race in which the purse is \$9,999 or less to be awarded a minimum amount, as specified.

This bill would instead require a jockey whose horse finishes first, 2nd, or 3rd, to be paid percentages of the gross purse, as specified, except a jockey who finishes 2nd or 3rd in a race in which the purse is \$9,999 or less. The bill would define gross purse as the published amount of the purse before any deductions. By imposing requirements on the payments made to jockeys, the violation of which would be a misdemeanor, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

2 (a) California is the only state where the compensation a jockey
3 receives for winning a race is reduced by requiring the jockey to
4 pay a portion of the entry fee and other fees paid by an owner.

5 (b) In order to attract and retain quality jockeys to race in
6 California and to ensure uniformity in horse racing industry
7 standards, it is necessary to enact legislation that would conform
8 California's compensation standards to those in the rest of the
9 United States.

10 SEC. 2. Section 19502 is added to the Business and Professions
11 Code, to read:

12 19502. (a) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision
13 (b) of Section 19501, all of the following shall apply:

14 (1) A jockey whose horse finishes first in a race shall be paid
15 at least 10 percent of the first place winner's share of the gross
16 purse.

17 (2) A jockey whose horse finishes second in a race shall be paid
18 at least 5 percent of the second place winner's share of the gross
19 purse.

20 (3) A jockey whose horse finishes third in a race shall be paid
21 at least 5 percent of the third place winner's share of the gross
22 purse.

23 (b) For purposes of this section, "gross purse" means the
24 published amount of the purse before any deductions.

25 SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
26 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
27 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
28 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
29 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
30 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
31 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within

1 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
2 Constitution.

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